

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/DE2003/0022



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2002P12322WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/DE2003/002280	International filing date (day/month/year) 08 July 2003 (08.07.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 31 July 2002 (31.07.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04Q 11/04		
Applicant SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 18 February 2004 (18.02.2004)	Date of completion of this report 10 November 2004 (10.11.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

☐ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-13, as originally filed,
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the claims, Nos. 1-24, as originally filed,
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1/1, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	6-8, 13, 14, 16, 17, 22, 23	YES
	Claims	1-5, 9, 10-12, 15, 18-21, 24	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-24	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-24	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: US-A-5959989 (Gleeson B J et al) 28 September
1999 (28.09.1999)

1. Claim 1 does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(2). The reasons for this are as follows:

Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses relate to said document) a method (cf. column 5, line 51 - column 7, line 11) for transmitting broadcasting formation (cf. multicast messages) sent to a central communications unit (cf. the multicast network device MND) to subscriber connections (cf. "entities") associated with at least one decentralised communications unit (cf. "intermediate devices") via at least one communications network (cf. figure 1A, figure 2A)

- wherein, to transmit information that is specific to the subscriber connection, proceeding from the central communications unit, at least one virtual connection that is specific to the subscriber connection is established via the communications network, via the at least one decentralised

communications unit to/via each communications connection (cf. "VLAN designations"),

- at least one further virtual connection is established between the central communications unit and the at least one decentralised communications unit (cf. the multicast VLAN identification MVLAN ID),
- the broadcasting information for a plurality of subscriber connections is examined in the central communications unit as to whether at least a portion of said broadcasting information is to be transmitted to a plurality of subscriber connections of the at least one decentralised communications unit (cf. column 6, lines 1-11), and
- the at least one portion of the broadcasting information for a plurality of subscriber connections is transmitted via the at least one further virtual connection to the at least one decentralised communications unit, is copied there, and is transmitted via the plurality of subscriber connections (cf. column 6, line 11 - column 7, line 11).

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore not novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

2. Claims 19 and 24 define a communications device and a communications arrangement respectively having substantially the same subject matter as claim 1. Similar objections (PCT Article 33(2)) therefore apply.
3. Dependent claims 2-18 and 20-23 do not contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the

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PCT requirements for novelty (PCT Article 33(2)) or inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)), because the respective additional features are standard measures in the art and/or are already known from document D1.